

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1-6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) ~~A semiconductor device as set forth in claim 1, characterized in that,~~ A semiconductor device comprising a fuse (3) having a fuse body (3A) and two pads (3Ba, 3Bb) connected by the fuse body (3A) and two conductive layers (5A, 5B) individually connected to two pads (3Ba, 3Bb), the above being formed inside a multilayer structure on a semiconductor substrate (1).

characterized in that a length (L1) of the fuse body (3A) is defined so that the melting location of the fuse (3) becomes positioned in the fuse body (3A) away from a region overlapped on the conductive layers (5A, 5B) when an electrical stress is applied between the two conductive layers (5A, 5B) to melt the fuse (3); and

in at least one of the above two conductive layers (5A, 5B), a distance (D4) from the contact regions (4A, 4B) connecting the conductive layers (5A, 5B) and the pads (3Ba, 3Bb) to edges of the pad (3Ba, 3Bb) contacting the fuse body (3A) is 0.25  $\mu\text{m}$  to 0.90  $\mu\text{m}$ .

8-15. (Canceled)

16. (Original) A semiconductor device comprising a fuse (3) including a conductive material in a multilayer structure on a semiconductor substrate (1), said fuse (3) having a fuse body (3A) and two pads (3Ba, 3Bb) connected by the fuse body (3A), conductive layers (5A, 5B) connected one by one to said two pads (3Ba, 3Bb),

characterized in that, in at least one of the above two conductive layers (5A, 5B), a width (W3) of the portions of the conductive layers (5A, 5B) including the contact regions (4A, 4B) with the pads (3Ba, 3Bb) is 6  $\mu\text{m}$  to 14  $\mu\text{m}$ .

17-18. (Canceled)

19. (New) A semiconductor device comprising:

a fuse body (3A) connected to a pad (3Ba), said fuse body (3A) including a fuse line (3Aa) and two connections (3Ab);

an inter-layer insulating film (4) on said pad (3Ba), an opening (4A) through said inter-layer insulating film (4) exposing said pad (3Ba);

a conductive layer (5A) on said inter-layer insulating film (4), said conductive layer (5A) within said opening (4A) being electrically connected to said pad (3Ba),

wherein at least one of the following is present:

(a) the width (W3) of said conductive layer (5A) is 6  $\mu\text{m}$  to 14  $\mu\text{m}$ ,

(b) the distance (D4) between said fuse line (3Aa) and said opening (4A) is 0.25  $\mu\text{m}$  to 0.90  $\mu\text{m}$ ,

(c) said length (L1) of the fuse body (3A) is 1.8  $\mu\text{m}$  to 20  $\mu\text{m}$ .

20. (New) A semiconductor device as set forth in claim 19, wherein the melting location of said fuse (3) becomes positioned in said fuse body (3A) away from a region overlapped on said conductive layer (5A) when an electrical stress to melt said fuse (3) is applied between said conductive layer (5A) and another conductive layer (5B).

21. (New) A semiconductor device as set forth in claim 19, wherein said width (W3) of said conductive layer (5A) is 6  $\mu\text{m}$  to 14  $\mu\text{m}$ .

22. (New) A semiconductor device as set forth in claim 19, wherein said distance (D4) between said fuse line (3Aa) and said opening (4A) is 0.25  $\mu\text{m}$  to 0.90  $\mu\text{m}$ .

23. (New) A semiconductor device as set forth in claim 19, wherein said length (L1) of the fuse body (3A) is 1.8  $\mu\text{m}$  to 20  $\mu\text{m}$ .

24. (New) A semiconductor device as set forth in claim 19, wherein said width (W3) is a dimension perpendicular to the direction of current flowing through said fuse (3).

25. (New) A semiconductor device as set forth in claim 19, wherein said length (L1) is a dimension in the direction of current flowing through said fuse (3), said length (L1) including the length (L0) of said fuse line (3Aa) and the lengths (L2) of said two connections (3Ab).

26. (New) A semiconductor device as set forth in claim 19, wherein another conductive layer (5B) within another opening (4A) through said inter-layer insulating film (4) is electrically connected to another pad (3Bb), the distance (D0) between said conductive layer (5A) and said another conductive layer (5B) is larger than said length (L1).

27. (New) A semiconductor device as set forth in claim 19, wherein one of the connections (3Ab) electrically connects said pad (3Ba) with fuse line (3Aa), said one of the connections (3Ab) being between said pad (3Ba) and said fuse line (3Aa).

28. (New) A semiconductor device as set forth in claim 19, wherein each of said two connections (3Ab) is wider than said fuse line (3Aa).

29. (New) A semiconductor device as set forth in claim 19, wherein a connection (3Ab) of said two connections (3Ab) has a width that increases toward said pad (3Ba).

30. (New) A semiconductor device as set forth in claim 19, wherein the width of the fuse body (3A) is smaller than the width (W3) of said pad (3Ba).

31. (New) A semiconductor device as set forth in claim 19, wherein one of the two connections (3Ab) electrically connects said pad (3Ba) with said fuse line (3Aa).

32. (New) A semiconductor device as set forth in claim 31, wherein another of the two connections (3Ab) electrically connects another pad (3Bb) with said fuse line (3Aa).

33. (New) A semiconductor device as set forth in claim 32, wherein another conductive layer (5B) within another opening (4A) through said inter-layer insulating film (4) is electrically connected to said another pad (3Bb), the distance (D0) between said conductive layer (5A) and said another conductive layer (5B) is larger than said length (L1).

34. (New) A semiconductor device as set forth in claim 33, wherein said length (L1) is the distance between said pad (3Ba) and said another pad (3Bb).